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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/867,578

Applicant(s)

WANG ET AL.

Examiner

Farzana E. Hossain

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-22, 26 and 27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-22, 26 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 September 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. This office action is in response to communications filed 05/10/2006. Claims 1, 8, 18 and 22 are amended. Claims 2-7, 9-16, 19-21 are original. Claims 17, 23-25 are cancelled. Claims 26-27 are new.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Regarding Claim 1, the applicant argues that Lett does not disclose that data is indexed such that application may retrieve a portion of the stored data with a database query much less indexed by preparing data tables having an index data area and detail data area, separating the stored data into index data and detail data, and loading data to the data tables. The applicant further argues that information service process may select portion of the EPG data prior to transmission and the on screen display control is not described to have this feature and "Lett teaches away from indexing data...."

In response to the argument, Lett discloses an application retrieving a portion of the stored data based on a request for the EPG to render the EPG from the retrieved stored data based on a request or query such as favorite channels or information

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(Column 9, lines 16-26, Column 11, lines 8-19, Column 12, lines 3-5, Column 15, lines 13-40, Figure 4A, Figure 4B). Banker (incorporated by reference) discloses stored data stored in the EPG database (Column 17, lines 18-20). Lett does not teach away from the invention. Jones discloses all other limitations. See new rejection.

3. Applicant's failure to adequately traverse the Examiner's taking of Official Notice for Claim 16 in the last Office Action is taken as an admission of the facts noticed.

Also, Claim 18 is substantially similar to Claim 16 in that digital data, which is values within the array of values, are converted to at least one binary character or data string.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. The indicated allowability of claims 17 (now claim 8) 18- 22 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Jones et al. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

***Specification***

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Page 3, line 6 recites "telestial" which the Office assumes to be --terrestrial--.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Drawings***

6. The drawings are objected to because:

Figures 6A, 6B, 8A, 8B, 10A, 10B and 14 contain only text for API and are not drawings per se. These figures contain information that should be placed in the applicant's specification (i.e. tables or an appendix).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Objections***

7. Claims 5 and 12 objected to because of the following informalities: The claims recite "telestial" which the Office assumes to be --terrestrial--. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

8. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

9. Claims 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 19 recites "a classifying code segment that classifies the information as electronic program guide data based on the average exceed cutoff value."

This limitation although is an originally filed claim, the applicant's specification discloses that the classifying module classifies the data as electronic programming data based on whether the *received data* exceeds a cutoff value" and as "*a clock run* if the average value exceed a cutoff" (Page 3, lines 15-20).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

10. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

The USPTO "Interim Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications for Patent Subject Matter Eligibility" (Official Gazette notice of 22 November 2005), Annex IV, reads as follows:

Nonfunctional descriptive material that does not constitute a statutory process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter and should be rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 101. Certain types of descriptive material, such as music, literature, art, photographs and mere arrangements or compilations of facts or data, without any functional interrelationship is not a process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter. USPTO personnel should be prudent in applying the foregoing guidance. Nonfunctional descriptive material may be claimed in combination with other functional descriptive multi-media material on a computer-readable medium to provide the necessary functional and structural interrelationship to satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. Sec. 101. The presence of the claimed nonfunctional descriptive material is not necessarily determinative of nonstatutory subject matter. For example, a computer that recognizes a particular grouping of musical notes read from memory and upon recognizing that particular sequence, causes another defined series of notes to be played, defines a functional interrelationship among that data and the computing processes performed when utilizing that data, and as such is statutory because it implements a statutory process.

11. Claims 8-16 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter as follows. Claim 8 recites a computer program with code segments and a mere compilation of data computer program which does not impart functionality to a computer or computing device, and is thus considered nonfunctional descriptive material. Such nonfunctional descriptive material, in the absence of a functional interrelationship with a computer, does not constitute a statutory process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter and is thus non-statutory per se.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 1, 3-7, 26, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stautner et al (US 6,172,677 and hereafter referred to as "Stautner") in view of Lett et al (US 5,592,551 and hereafter referred to as "Lett") and Jones et al (US 5,978,013 and hereafter referred to as "Jones"). Note: Lett incorporates by reference Banker et al (application 08/229,805: US 5,485,221 and hereafter referred to as "Banker").

Regarding Claim 1, Stautner discloses a method for making data derived from a video signal accessible (Column 6, 4, lines 21-24, 67, Column 5, line 1), receiving data derived from a vertical blanking interval of a video signal (Column 6, 4, lines 21-24, 67, Column 5, line 1), storing the data received on a storage medium for retrieval based on a subsequently received request or based on navigation of information (Column 3, lines 40-67, Column 4, lines 1-8); indexing the stored data such that an application may retrieve a portion of the stored data with a database query or selecting and taking actions on information (Column 3, lines 40-67, Column 4, lines 1-8). Stautner discloses storing in the database data including program information and additional information including promotions and information about products and services (Column 4, lines 9-21, Abstract). Stautner discloses providing an EPG based on data, however does not



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explicitly discloses rendering an electronic program guide based on a request or query. Stautner is also silent on indexing the stored data includes: preparing data tables having an index data area and a detail data area, separating the stored data into index data and detail data, and loading data to the data tables.

In analogous art, Lett discloses a method for making data derived from a video signal accessible (Column 5, lines 22-33), comprising: receiving data derived from a vertical blanking interval of a video signal (Column 5, lines 22-33, 66-67, Column 6, lines 1-4); storing the data received on a storage medium for retrieval based on a subsequently received request as the user requests to view the electronic programming guide (EPG) and the EPG is generated from data (Column 8, lines 45-50, Figure 4a, Figure 4B); and indexing the stored data (Column 8, lines 45-50) and an application retrieving a portion of the stored data based on a request for the EPG to render the EPG from the retrieved stored data based on a request or query such as favorite channels or information (Column 9, lines 16-26, Column 11, lines 8-19, Column 12, lines 3-5, Column 15, lines 13-40, Figure 4A, Figure 4B). Banker discloses stored data stored in the EPG database (Column 17, lines 18-20). Banker discloses extracting and filtering the data (Column 13, lines 21-67, Column 14, lines 1-30). In analogous art, Jones disclose indexing stored data (Column 14, lines 16-35), wherein indexing the stored data includes: preparing data tables having an index data area and a detail data area (Figure 8, 230, 232), separating the stored data into index data and detail data (Column 14, lines 16-25, Figure 8) and loading data to the data tables (Figure 8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Stautner to include an application retrieving a portion of the stored data based on a request for the EPG to render the EPG from the retrieved stored data based on a request or query such as favorite channels or information (Column 9, lines 16-26, Column 11, lines 8-19, Column 12, lines 3-5, Column 15, lines 13-40, Figure 4A, Figure 4B) as taught by Lett in order to provide an EPG to a user in a more useful format (Column 1, lines 25-30, Column 3, lines 15-18) as disclosed by Lett and allow users to select programming that the user has chosen as being interesting to them via favorite channels (Figure 4A, Figure 4B) as disclosed by Lett.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination to include indexing stored data (Column 14, lines 16-35), wherein indexing the stored data includes: preparing data tables having an index data area and a detail data area (Figure 8, 230, 232), separating the stored data into index data and detail data (Column 14, lines 16-25, Figure 8) and loading data to the data tables (Figure 8) as taught by Jones in order to for the processor to determine the oldest data is deleted the information is indexed by numerals to provide an effective way of storing content without creating multiple records (Column 15, lines 43-60) as disclosed by Jones.

Regarding Claim 3, Stautner, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim

1. Stautner discloses that the storage medium is a disk drive (Column 4, lines 9-11).

Regarding Claim 4, Stautner, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim

1. Lett discloses the video signal is a cable broadcasted video signal such that the receiving code segment or control program receiving the data includes receiving data derived from the vertical blanking interval of the cable broadcasted video signal Figure 1, 12, Column 4, lines 22-2).

Regarding Claim 5, Stautner, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim

1. Lett discloses the video signal is a terrestrial broadcasted video signal such that receiving the data includes receiving data derived from the vertical blanking interval of the terrestrial broadcasted video signal (Column 1, lines 33-35, Column 5, lines 4-26, Column 5, lines 66-67, Column 6, lines 1-3). Jones discloses terrestrial broadcast signal (Column 3, lines 42-45, Column 12, lines 46-59).

Regarding Claim 6, Stautner, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim

1. Lett discloses wherein the video signal is a satellite broadcasted video signal such that the receiving the data includes control program receiving data derived from the vertical blanking interval of the satellite broadcasted video signal (Figure 1, Column 4, lines 22-26).

Regarding Claim 7, Stautner, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim

1. Banker discloses that deriving the data by parsing data receiving from the VBI of the video signal (Figure 3, Column 13, lines 21-30). Jones discloses deriving the data by parsing data receiving from the VBI of the video signal (Figure 7, Figure 8).

Regarding Claim 26, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Jones discloses indexing the stored data further includes updating all indexes associated with

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the data tables (Column 15, lines 22-60). Lett discloses updating indexed information (Column 13, lines 4-30).

Regarding Claim 27, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 1.

27. Banker discloses comprising storing the data received in temporary memory prior to storing the data received on a storage medium (Column 14, lines 21-26).

14. Claims 8-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lett in view of Jones.

Regarding Claim 8, Lett discloses a computer program, embodied in a computer readable medium, capable of generating data representing information communicated in a vertical blanking interval of a video signal (Column 9, lines 43-56, Column 5, lines 22-33, 66-67, Column 6, lines 1-4, Column 8, lines 35-54, Column 9, lines 16-26, Column 11, lines 8-19, Column 12, lines 3-5, Column 15, lines 13-40), the computer program comprising:

a receiving code segment that receives data representing information communicated in a vertical blanking interval (VBI) of a video signal (Column 9, lines 1-25).

Banker discloses a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, capable of generating digital data representing information communicated in a vertical blanking interval of a video signal (Column 10, lines 52-67, Column 11, lines 1-2, Column 53-67, Column 12, lines 1-3), a receiving code segment or the control program that receives data representing information in the VBI (Figure 3); a generating

code segment or the control program that generates digital data based on the data using a predetermined algorithm or program functions (Column 13, lines 21-67, Column 10, lines 52-67, Column 11, lines 1-2, Column 53-67, Column 12, lines 1-3); and

a storing code segment that stores the generated data on a storage medium wherein the receiving code segment includes (Column 13, line 67, Column 14, lines 1-30, Column 11, lines 1-2, Column 53-67, Column 12, lines 1-3):

a sampling code segment or control program via the decoder state machine that periodically samples at least a portion of the video signal containing the information (Column 14, lines 13-20), the code segment or control program generates a bitstream from the sample (Column 14, lines 13-30) and the control program receives a portion of the data (Column 14, lines 13-52).

Lett is silent on the control program or a code segment that generates a numeric representation of the information including an array of values from the control program, and a code segment that receives the array as at least a portion of the data.

In analogous art, Jones discloses control program or a code segment that generates a numeric representation of the information including an array of values (Figure 8, Figure 7, Column 14, lines 17-67, Column 15, lines 1-45), and a code segment that receives the array as at least a portion of the data (Column 15, lines 22-45). The Microsoft Press 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Computer Dictionary defines array as a list of data values, all of the same type, any element which can be referenced by an expression consisting of the array name followed by an indexing expression. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to modify Lett to include a control program or a code segment that generates a numeric representation of the information including an array of values (Figure 8, Figure 7, Column 14, lines 17-67, Column 15, lines 1-45), and a code segment that receives the array as at least a portion of the data (Column 15, lines 22-45) as taught by Jones in order to for the processor to determine the oldest data is deleted the information is indexed by numerals to provide an effective way of storing content without creating multiple records (Column 15, lines 43-60) as disclosed by Jones.

Regarding Claim 9, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Banker discloses the data includes non-video information and the receiving code segment includes a code segment that receives data representing non-video information (Figure 3, Column 13, lines 21-45). Lett discloses non-video information (Figure 4A, Figure 4B).

Regarding Claim 10, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett discloses the video signal is a cable broadcasted video signal such that the receiving code segment or control program receiving the data includes receiving data derived from the vertical blanking interval of the cable broadcasted video signal Figure 1, 12, Column 4, lines 22-2).

Regarding Claim 11, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett discloses wherein the video signal is a satellite broadcasted video signal such that the receiving the data includes control program receiving data derived from the vertical blanking interval of the satellite broadcasted video signal (Figure 1, Column 4, lines 22-26).

Regarding Claim 12, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett discloses the video signal is a terrestrial broadcasted video signal such that receiving the data includes receiving data derived from the vertical blanking interval of the terrestrial broadcasted video signal (Column 1, lines 33-35, Column 5, lines 4-26, Column 5, lines 66-67, Column 6, lines 1-3). Jones discloses terrestrial broadcast signal (Column 3, lines 42-45, Column 12, lines 46-59).

Regarding Claim 13, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett discloses the receiving code segment includes a code segment that receives data representing the information communicated with the video signal from among a vertical blanking interval of the video signal (Column 5, lines 10-33, 66-67, Column 6, lines 1-3, Column 9, lines 1-25).

Regarding Claim 14, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett discloses the computer program is an embedded software application (Figure 3, 104)

Regarding Claim 15, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett discloses the generating code segment includes a code segment for converting the data into a format that is used to generate an electronic programming guide or decoding the data thus converting the data from coded data to non-coded data (Column 8, lines 36-54). Banker discloses decoding data (Figure 3).

15. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stautner in view of Lett and Jones as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Ellis et al (US 6,665,869 and hereafter referred to as "Ellis").

Regarding Claim 2, Stautner, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim

1. Lett discloses that storing the data is accessible via television interface (Figure 2, 20). Lett and Jones do not explicitly disclose the storing of the data makes the data accessible to an application program interface. In analogous art, Ellis discloses the storing of the data makes the data accessible to an application program interface (Column 6, lines 13-19). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the combination to include storing of the data makes the data accessible to an application program interface (Column 6, lines 13-19) as taught by Ellis in order to allow multiple applications to utilize interactive program guide as well as the program guide application (Column 1, lines 38-58) as disclosed by Ellis.

16. Claims 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lett in view of Jones as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Applicant's admission of fact.

Regarding Claim 16, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett and Jones are silent on the digital data includes a binary data string such that the generating code segment includes a code segment for converting the data into the binary data string. Applicant's admission of fact provides evidence to include digital data includes a binary data string such that the generating code segment includes a code segment for converting the data into the binary data string. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the combination to include digital data includes a binary data string such that the generating



code segment includes a code segment for converting the data into the binary data string for the benefit of reducing latency associated with storing analog data.

Regarding Claim 18, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Lett and Jones are silent on the digital data or values from within an array of values includes a binary character string such that the generating code segment includes a code segment for converting the data into the binary character or data string. Applicant's admission of fact provides evidence to include digital data includes a binary data string such that the generating code segment includes a code segment for converting the data into the binary data string. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the combination to include digital data includes a binary data string such that the generating code segment includes a code segment for converting the data into the binary data string for the benefit of reducing latency associated with storing analog data.

17. Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lett in view of Jones as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view Banker.

Regarding Claim 22, Lett and Jones disclose all the limitations of Claim 8. Jones discloses on the array of values (Figure 8). Lett and Jones are silent on color and control information. Banker discloses that message information including color and control information or information dealing with display number for a particular address or group and where to tune to for the message and any information dealing with priority is transmitted via the VBI (Column 17, lines 49-65, Column 16, lines 41-42). The

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combination of Lett, Jones and Banker discloses the array of values represent at least color information and control information to provide multi service communication systems and for a subscriber to gain access to a text service (Column 2, lines 21-31) as disclosed by Banker.

### ***Double Patenting***

18. Applicant is advised that should claim 16 be found allowable; claim 18 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

### ***Note to the Applicant***

19. The examiner of record has changed to Farzana Hossain.

### ***Conclusion***

20. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Landis (US 5,659,368) discloses comparing the slicing level to distinguish run in clock signal and distinguishes CC data (Column 3, lines 1-5, 45-56).

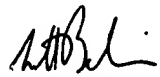
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21. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farzana E. Hossain whose telephone number is 571-272-5943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

FEH  
June 19, 2007

  
SCOTT E. BELIVEAU  
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER